



# Toxicology in the 21st Century

## A New Tox21 Strategic and Operational Plan

September 18, 2017

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The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of any of the Federal agencies represented.



National Institute of  
Environmental Health  
Sciences



National Center  
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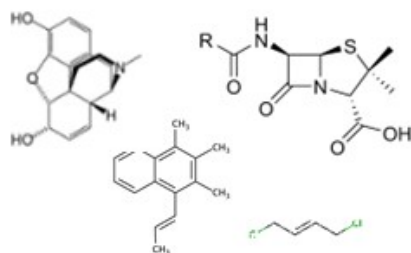
NTP

National Toxicology Program  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

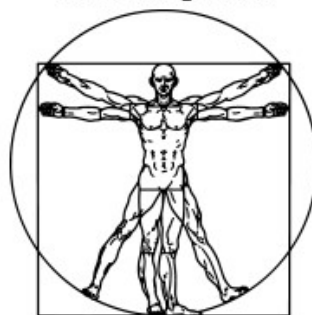


# Underlying Issues Facing Toxicology

Number of Chemicals  
/Combinations to Test



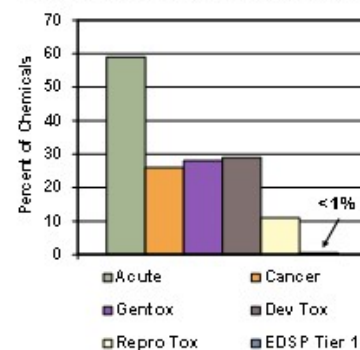
Human Relevance  
of Existing Tests



Ethics Concerns

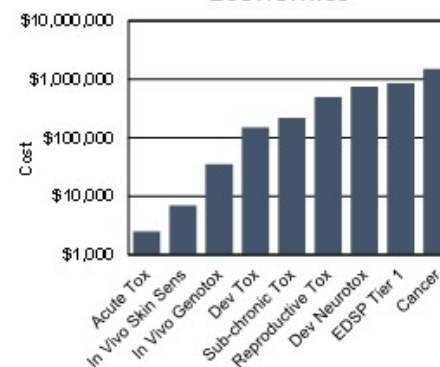


Lack of Data for  
Environmental Chemicals



Modified from Judson et al., EHP 2010

Economics





# Formation and Renewal of U.S. Tox21 Federal Partnership

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ON

High Throughput Screening, Toxicity Pathway Profiling,  
and Biological Interpretation of Findings



MOU Signed February, 2008; Revised July, 2010

## XI. APPROVAL

### National Toxicology Program

*Linda S. Birnbaum*  
Linda S. Birnbaum, Ph.D., DABT, ATS  
Director

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
National Institutes of Health

*5-11-15*  
Date

### National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

*Christopher P. Austin*  
Christopher P. Austin, M.D.  
Director

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences  
National Institutes of Health

*5/20/2015*  
Date

### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

*Ezekiel Kadeli*  
Ezekiel Kadeli  
Acting Assistant Administrator  
Office of Research and Development  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

*6/16/15*  
Date

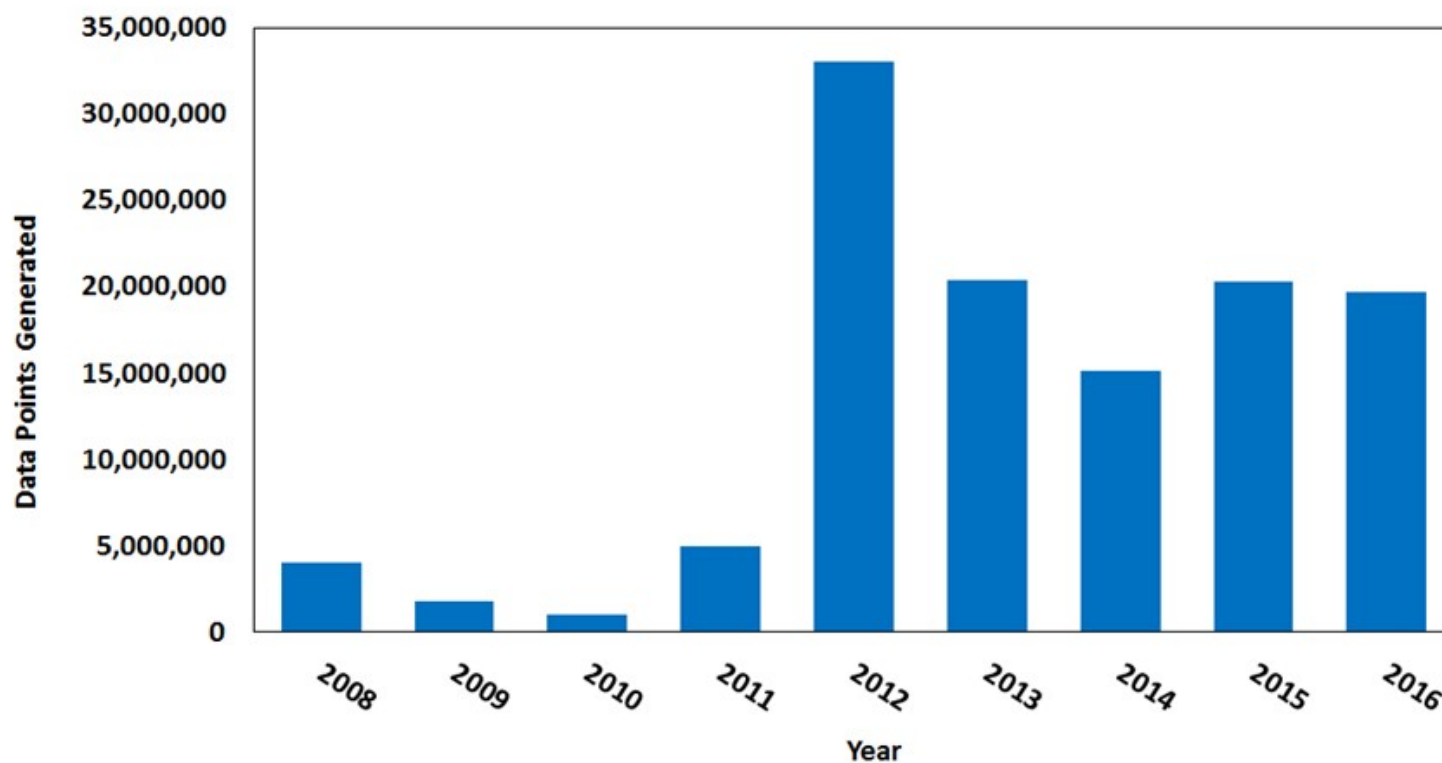
### U.S. Food and Drug Administration

*Susan T. Mayne*  
Susan T. Mayne, Ph.D.  
Director  
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition  
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

*5/27/15*  
Date



## Toxicity Testing Data Generated by Tox21



\*Total number of assays is ~70



## Scientific, Public, and Regulatory Impact of Tox21

- Tox21 collaboration has published over 200 scientific peer-reviewed articles in over 56 journals
- Top 5 Tox21 publications cited an average of over 100 times (Web of Science)
- Tox21 mentioned in over 70 news articles, 13 blogs, 461 Twitter posts, and 8 Wikipedia articles (AltMetric, Aug, 2017)
- Tox21 publications cited in over 140 policy-related and expert panel documents (AltMetric, Aug, 2017).
  - National Academies of Science Reports (~80)
  - Publications Office of the European Union (~15)
  - European Food Safety Authority (~5)
  - World Health Organization (~5)



But, the Focus of Tox21 has been  
Predominantly on HTS







# Need to Expand Vision to Move Toxicity Testing into 21<sup>st</sup> Century

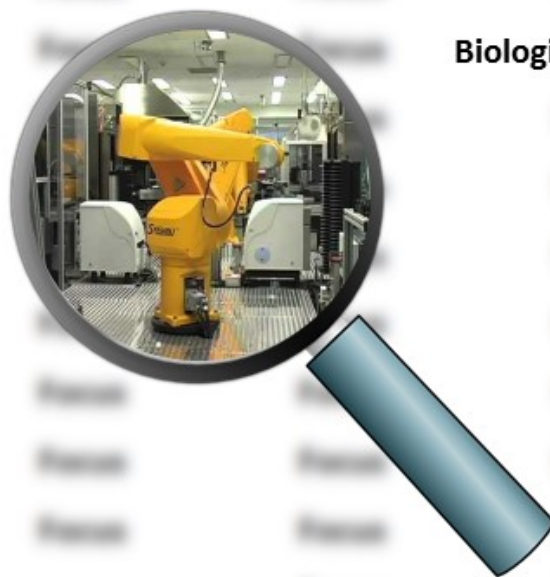
Validation

Biological Coverage

Biokinetics

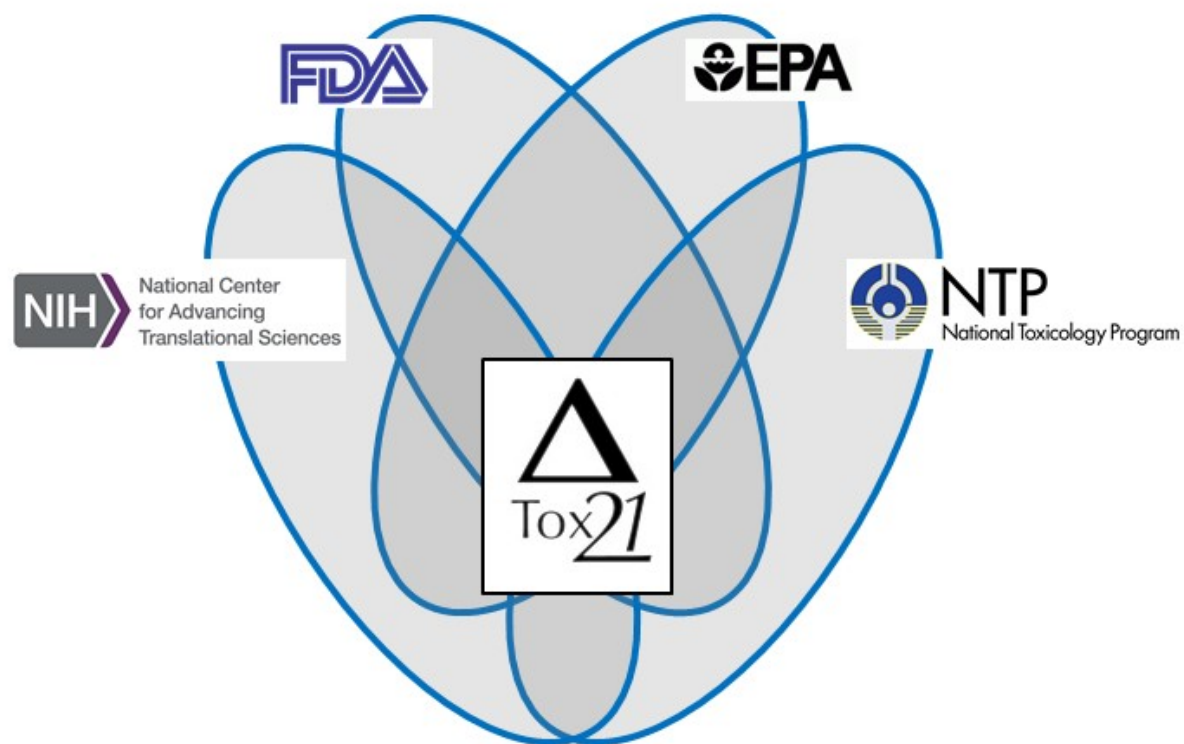
Organotypic  
Assays

Metabolic  
Competence





## The Challenge



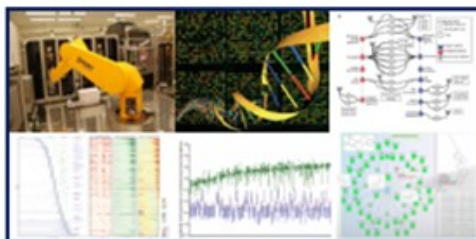




# New Tox21 Strategic and Operational Plan

## Tox21 Collaboration

### A Strategic Plan for Continued Leadership



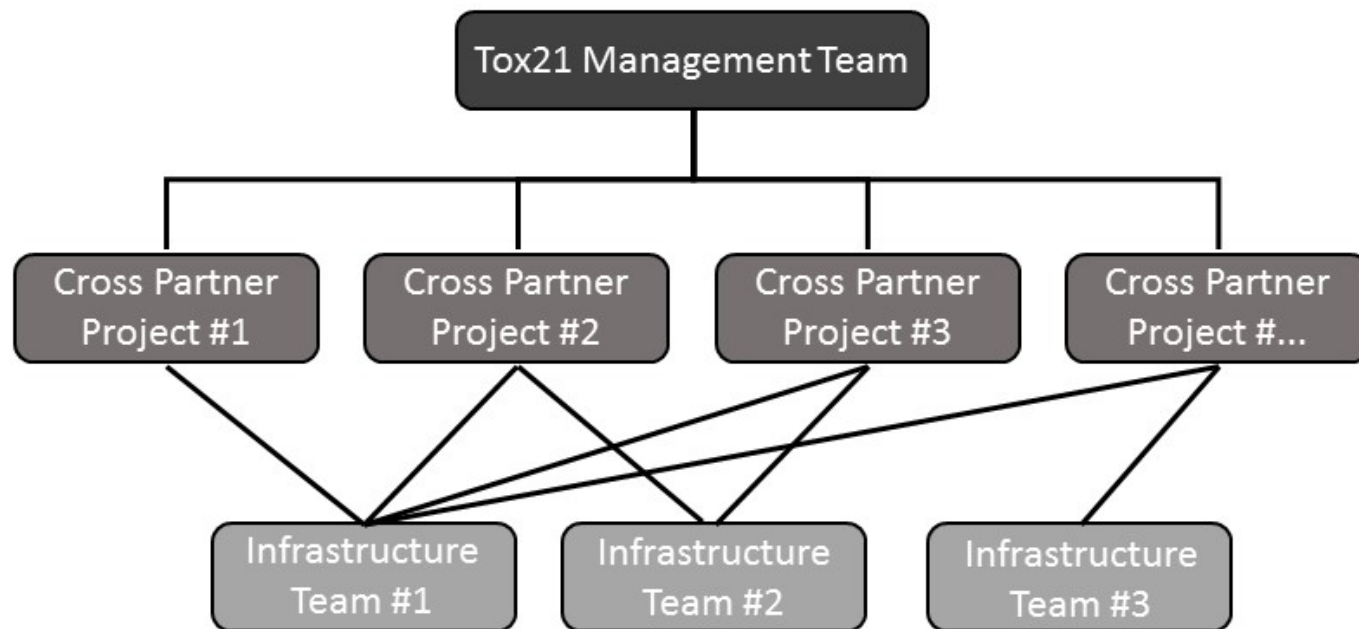
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## Areas of Focus

1. Develop and deploy alternative test systems that are predictive of human toxicity and dose response
2. Address key technical limitations of current *in vitro* test systems
3. Curate and characterize legacy *in vivo* toxicity studies to serve as a resource for interpreting Tox21 data
4. Develop framework for efficient validation of Tox21 approaches
5. Refine and deploy *in vitro* methods for characterizing pharmacokinetics to increase predictivity and reduce uncertainty

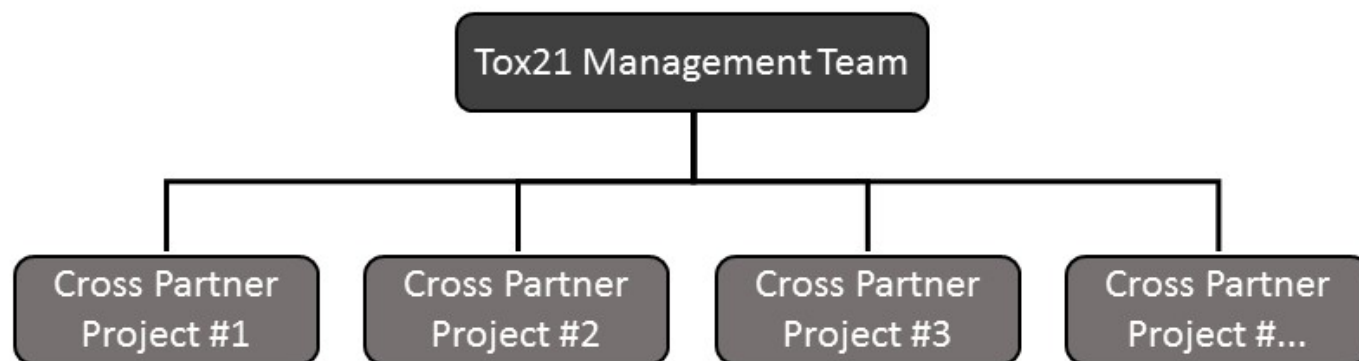


## New Tox21 Structure





## New Tox21 Structure



### Cross-Partner Projects

- Project charters
- 3 year terms
- Project leads from two or more partners
- Reviewed annually



# Initial Infrastructure Teams and Example Cross Partner Projects

## Infrastructure Teams

- Chemical Library Management
- Communications
- Assay Evaluation and Screening

## Cross-Partner Projects

- *In Vitro* Disposition of Tox21 Chemicals
- Performance Based Validation of Tox21 Assays
- Development of a Reference Chemical Dataset for Interpretation of High-Throughput Transcriptomic Screening Data
- Incorporating Genetic Susceptibility into Developmental Neurotoxicity Screening
- Development of a High-Throughput Assay to Identify 5- $\alpha$  Reductase Inhibitors for Orthogonal Evaluation in an Androgen-dependent Human 3D Prostate Tissue
- Cell Line Selection for High-Throughput Transcriptomic Screening
- Predictive Modeling of Developmental Toxicity with Human Pluripotent Stem Cells
- Development of a High-Throughput Assay to Identify Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitors



Thank You for Your Attention!

